

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

September 1, 2009

David Blumenthal, M.D.
National Coordinator
Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology
U.S. Department for Health and Human Services
200 Independence Avenue, S.W.
Washington, DC

Dear Dr. Blumenthal:

It is my pleasure to support Healthbridge in its efforts to secure funding through the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Health Information Technology Regional Extension Program: Regional Centers Cooperative Agreement grant program.

If awarded, funding will be used to assist priority providers with training opportunities and technologies. Healthbridge, along with its partner health information exchanges (HIEs), university partners, and community organizations, will collaboratively offer basic education on electronic health record (EHR) implementation, EHR implementation assistance, EHR hosting and intensive technical assistance, and wrap-around services.

It is my hope that Healthbridge, along with its partners will have the opportunity to greatly enhance the adoption of electronic health records and achieve meaningful use in Ohio.

Please give serious consideration to Healthbridge's application for funding. I ask that you keep my office informed of the status of this application.

Sincerely,



Sherrod Brown
United States Senator

SB: lm